

13.16.080. Removal of damaged trees.

(a) Official or unofficial city trees shall be removed immediately by the city in the event such a tree is damaged or destroyed from any cause which in the opinion of the superintendent results in such a tree becoming an immediate threat to the safety of life or property.

(b) City trees shall be ordered removed when the superintendent finds such action necessary to prevent a hazard to public safety or to prevent the spread of disease or insects to public trees and places.

(1) The property owner who is notified of such order shall have the right within five days from the service of the order to file a written appeal with the director of public works.

(2) The director may revoke or modify the order if the director finds that the removal of the tree is not necessary to prevent a hazard to public safety or to prevent the spread of disease or insects to public trees and places.

(3) The total cost of the removal of city trees shall be borne by the city. An official city tree shall be planted, when practical, as a replacement in a location approved by the superintendent. The cost of the official city tree replacement shall be borne by the city.

(c) Unofficial city trees ordered removed shall be allowed to remain if each of the following conditions is complied with:

(1) The property owner obtains a permit to prune the tree above and below ground; the property owner provides the city a signed written statement satisfactory to the city indemnifying and holding harmless the city from any liability or loss from the continued maintenance of the tree.

(2) The total cost of removing the unofficial city trees, when it becomes necessary in the future, shall be paid by the property owner or successor in title, which obligation shall be evidenced by a written document satisfactory to the city and recorded in the office of the county recorder.

(d) The superintendent shall initiate a tree replacement program in those areas of the city in which city trees are required to be removed. (Ord. 2374-91 § 2 (part)).